

# **Advocacy Training Toolkit**

## **Part 1 - Legislative Review**

**United Nations Association of the United States of America**



**UNA ★ USA**

# GOALS

- 1 Review American Rescue Plan**
- 2 FY'22 UN Funding Recommendations**
- 3 Update on U.S.-UN Arrears**

# American Rescue Plan Overview

- **Global Health (\$4.7 billion):** Including \$3.5 billion for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, to provide urgently needed treatments, equipment, personnel, and testing to save lives and contain the spread of COVID-19 while also protecting hard-fought gains against ongoing epidemics such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria.
- **International Disaster Relief (\$3.1 billion):** To support USAID's disaster response capabilities in countries impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak, including critical support for "rehabilitation, and reconstruction, for health activities, and to meet emergency food security needs."
- **Economic Assistance (\$930 million):** To address economic, security, and stabilization needs in COVID-19 affected countries.
- **Food for Peace (\$800 million):** To tackle the rising tides of global hunger and food insecurity, which have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Multilateral Assistance (\$580 million):** To support efforts by international partners – including the World Health Organization and UNICEF – to address the devastating humanitarian crises created by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Humanitarian Assistance (\$500 million):** To help prepare for and respond to the spread of COVID-19 among vulnerable refugee populations around the world.
- **State Department and USAID Operations (\$245 million):** To ensure America's diplomatic and development agencies have the resources to support frontline personnel, maintain facilities, and provide for emergency preparedness needs related to COVID-19.



# What Does This Mean?



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# Where do we go from here?

- Funding for the global response to COVID-19 – **which represents just 0.34% of all emergency COVID-19 relief** funding approved by Congress to date – is a direct investment in America's own health, security, and economic recovery. That is why **bipartisan Members of Congress have been speaking out** about the importance of America's global leadership role in combating COVID-19 and in **support of fully resourcing the State Department, USAID, and our other development agencies** on the frontlines fighting this pandemic.
- With the emergency COVID-19 relief package complete, **Congress and the Administration can turn their full attention to the FY'22 budget** and appropriations process – the Biden Administration's first budget request is expected to be released in the coming weeks. Since his inauguration, **President Biden has embraced a commitment to America's role in the world** and reinvesting in our nation's civilian development and diplomacy tools. The Administration's **FY'22 International Affairs Budget Request will be the first opportunity for the new President to lay out his priorities** when it comes to America's global leadership and will be closely analyzed by Congress.



# **FY'22 UN Budget Recommendations**



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# Let's Break Down the Numbers

- **Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities (CIPA): \$2.701 billion:** The CIPA account funds U.S. assessments for 11 UN peacekeeping missions, including critical operations in Mali, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Central African Republic, Lebanon, and the Golan Heights. All of these missions were approved by the UN Security Council—of which the U.S. is a permanent member with veto power—and play a central role in stabilizing conflict zones by separating warring parties, protecting civilians, facilitating delivery of humanitarian assistance, and helping fragile states carry out democratic elections and build effective governance structures.
- **Contributions to International Organizations (CIO): \$1.596 billion:** The CIO account funds U.S. assessments for the UN regular budget (UNRB) and more than 40 other international organizations, including UN specialized agencies like the World Health Organization (WHO). The UNRB is essential to the overall functioning of the UN, providing a reliable source of funding for many of the organization's core activities outside of peacekeeping.
- **Peacekeeping Operations (PKO): \$548 million:** The PKO account supports several non-UN regional peacekeeping operations and bilateral security initiatives, including an international observer force in the Sinai Peninsula that monitors security provisions of the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty. PKO also finances U.S. assessments for the UN Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS), which provides critical equipment and logistical support to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). BWC's FY'22 recommendation would allow the U.S. to fulfill its current financial obligations to UNSOS, as well as pay back an estimated \$92.7 million in arrears accrued due to application of the aforementioned peacekeeping cap.



# Funding the United Nations

**Funding for our UN dues  
amounts to about**

**0.2%**

**Of the total federal budget!**



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# What's The Deal With UN Funding?



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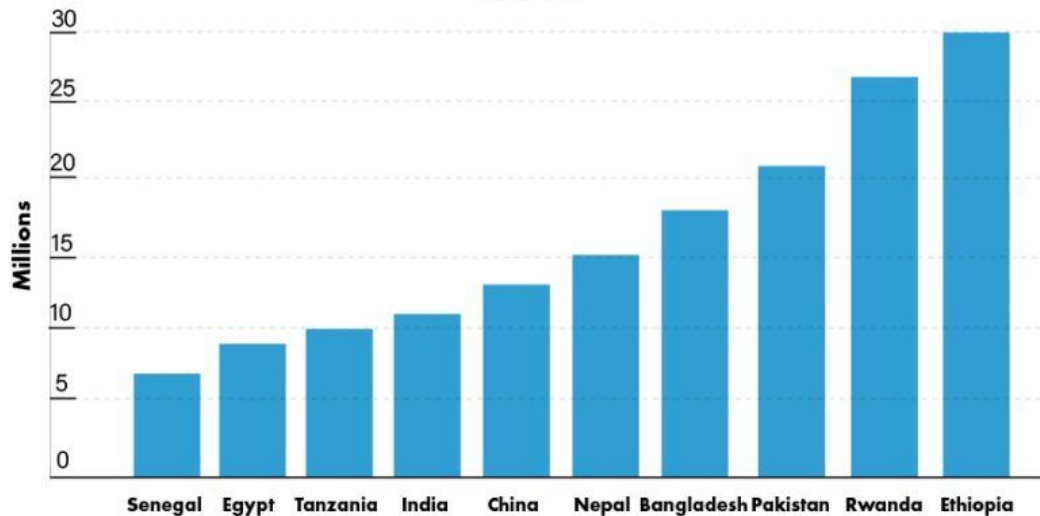
# How Much Do We Owe?

**Peacekeeping Arrears (\$1.1B):** Since FY'17, the U.S. has accrued \$1.1 billion in arrears on its peacekeeping assessments, due to Trump Administration policy and Congressional enforcement of the 25 percent legislative cap on U.S. contributions. The continuing growth of U.S. debt is particularly problematic for countries that participate in UN peacekeeping operations, including U.S. partners like Rwanda, Nepal and Bangladesh, who are not being fully reimbursed for their contributions of uniformed personnel and equipment. U.S. shortfalls amount to tens of millions of dollars each for these countries.

**Human Rights (\$90M):** Arrears in this space stem from Trump Administration withholding both to the UN Human Rights Council (\$31M) and to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (\$59M). These cuts have played an important role in enabling what Human Rights Watch called Russia and China's "assault on human rights."

## Debt Owed to Top Troop Contributing Countries

(as of 2020)



Source: UN Secretariat



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**OUR #1 ASK:  
FULLY FUND THE UNITED NATIONS**



# **Advocacy Training Toolkit**

## **Part 1 - Grassroots Review**

**United Nations Association of the United States of America**



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# GOALS

- 1 **Advocacy 101**
- 2 **How to Schedule a Meeting with Your Members of Congress**
- 3 **Tips, Tricks and Best Practices**

# Why Should YOU Take Action?



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# ADVOCACY 101

Educating someone about a cause, and changing perspectives.

Expressing support for a cause, idea, or policy.

Putting a problem on the agenda, presenting a solution, and building support for the solution.

**speaking out** *promoting an issue over dinner  
with friends*

**MEETING WITH A**

**letter writing** **LEGISLATOR** *making phone  
calls*

# UNA-USA'S Impact on Advocacy





# How Can I Get Started?



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# Setting Up Your Meeting



- **Contact the Scheduler:** Once you get in contact with the congressional office, be ready to provide the following information
  - Who you are and where you are from
  - The issue that you would like to address during the meeting
  - Desire to meet with the Congressperson or a relevant staffer
  - Your contact information
- **Following Up:** If you don't hear back after several days, you can reach out again by email or phone. Remember to be polite and refer to your first communication and reasons for wanting to meet with the Member or a relevant staffer.
- **Confirm the meeting:** Once your meeting has been scheduled, call a few days before the meeting to confirm that the appointment is still on the books.



# Before Your Meeting



- **Review the Talking Points and Briefing Book:** Use the Talking Points and the Briefing Book to update yourself on the issues you'll be discussing. These meetings should be brief – no more than 15-20 minutes.
- **Decide who is speaking and when:** The individual who lives in the Members' district/ state should be the person that speaks first. If more than one person falls into this category, discuss among your group who might be a good candidate to get the conversation started. From there, decide the order in which members of your group should speak.
- **Know your elected officials:** Do some quick online research to learn more about your Members of Congress – including what committees they serve on and past remarks they've made about the UN. In addition, checking their Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram accounts are helpful ways to see what issues are most recently on their minds.



# Advocacy Best Practices

- **Introduce Yourself**
- **Make the Core Ask**
- **Put Your Story Behind The Ask**
- **Support The Ask With Facts**
- **Say Thank You**
- **Request a Virtual Photo**
- **Be Authentic**



# What NOT To Do



- **Become confrontational or mention your party affiliation:** UNA-USA is a non-partisan organization and we try to work with ALL Members of Congress to build support for the UN. Please don't reveal your party affiliation or discuss who you did or didn't vote for, as this can risk alienating an office and/or weaken the effectiveness of your meeting.
- **Don't make up an answer; it's okay not to know:** If you find yourself in your meeting and you're not sure of an answer to a question, it's okay. Just let the person know that either you or someone from the UNA-USA National Office will get back to them with an answer to their question shortly.
- **Don't record audio or video during your meeting:** Congressional offices typically do not want their meetings with constituents videotaped or recorded. Avoid negatively affecting your meeting before it starts by not bringing audio or video recorders.

# Questions?

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